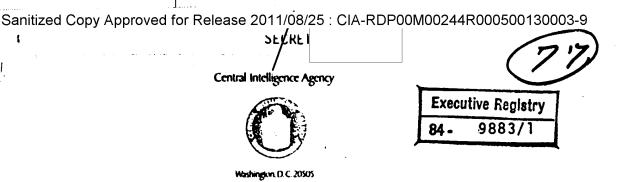
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9 November 1984

MEMORANDUM FOR: Robert M. Kimmitt

Executive Secretary

National Security Council

SUBJECT:

Nicaragua -- The Military Build-up Since July 1979

- l. In response to your request this morning, the attached chart, representing what we know about subject build-up, is forwarded for your use.
- 2. You will note that a column on the estimated value of military construction is not included. Data of this sort is not readily available, and it would take considerable time to attempt to make such estimates. A separate paragraph on the estimated value of airport construction has, however, been provided since that information was available, and it will provide an idea of the kinds of costs incurred.
- 3. A separate chart providing unclassified information is not included. The Nicaragua White Paper of July 1984 represents the Community's most systematic effort to declassify and round off figures related to military growth. That paper does not, however, provide the kind of chronological information you might want; nor does it provide the degree of specificity requested. In order to arrive at such figures for public consumption, there should be a Community effort comparable to that which occurred in the development of the original White Paper.

| 4. If there are any questions on this general (Chief, Nicaraguan Task F | questions on this char subject, please feel orce) or one of the Ta | free to contact | on duty |
|---|--|-----------------|------------------|
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| | Executive Secr | etary Executive | e Registry 13470 |
| Attachment: As Stated | | , | 25X1 |

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*We have no current estimate for the total value of military construction in Nicaragua. The calculation of such a figure would entail an extensive, time-consuming review of our files. Nevertheless, some sense of proportion probably can be derived from an overview of a sector such as airfield construction. A baseline value for construction costs at the new Punta Huete airfield probably would be comparable to the Point Salines airport in Grenada, currently estimated at some \$80 million dollars. Of course, structural differences such as revetments at Punta Huete versus the terminal at Point Salines make some costs variable. The total value of the other airfield projects in Nicaragua may approach the Point Salines' figure, meaning that total airport construction in Nicaragua is in the range of \$150-200 million dollars.

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| | # Forces | # Tanks | Other | # Aircraft/ | # New/Expanded | # Anti-aircraft | Electronic & |
|-----------------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|---|---|---|---|
| | Y POLCES | | Armored Vehicles | Helicopters | Airfields | Guns/Missiles | Communications Equipment |
| turrent ituation | 48,000-53,000 ^a 47,000-62,000 ^b | 110-115 T 54/55s 25-26 PT 76s | 180 APCs 6 Heavy Tank Ferries | 6-7 AN-2s 2 AN-26s 3 T-33's 4 MI-24s 9-11 MI-8s 5-6 MI-2s 6 Other Helos | The following airfields will have runways of at least 2,000 meters: Puerto Cabezas Bluefields La Rosita Punta Huete | 80-370 SA-7*** 170 anti-aircraft (AAA) guns | Encugh equipment for 4 early—warning/ Ground Control Intercept Sites |
| uildup ince une '84** | | | 24 BTR-152s 8 BRDM-2s | 3 MI-8s 4 MI-24s | | | 2 spoon Rest radars 2 Bar Lock radars |
| <u>rmual Rate</u> /19-12/31/79 | App 6,000a Full-time Guerrillas 17,000a | | | | | 30 AAA guns, | |
| 9 81 | 15,000-20,000 ^a 50,000 ^b | 25 T-55s | 13 APCs | 6 AN-2s 2 MI-8s | Puerto Cabezas, Bluefields, La Rosita expansion began | 18 SA-7s 63 various types of AAA quns | |
| 982 | 15,000-20,000 ^a 50,000 ^b | 22 T-55s | | 1 MI-8 4 SF-260s 3-4 MI-2s 2 Alouettes | | 46 AAA guns 12 SA-7 | 1 Full House HF/DF |
| 983 | 25,000 + ^a 50,000-80,000 ^b | | 1 BTR-50 45 BTR-152s 8 T54s 13 BRDM-2s | 1 AN-2 3 MI-2 2 AN-26 8 MI-8 | Punta Huete construction began | 36 AAA guns | 1 Full House HF/DF 1 Bar Lock 2 Odd Pair |
| 984 To 11/1 | 48,000-53,000 ^a 47,000-62,000 ^b | 25 PT-76s 25 T-55s 41 T-55s | 16 BRDM-2s 3 BTR-60s 39 BTR-152s 24 BTR-152s 8 BRDM-2s | 3 MI-8 4 MI-24 | Executive Registry | 12 37-mm AAA guns 6 57-mm AAA guns | 1 Odd Pair radar 3 Flat Face radar 1 Thin Skin radar 2 Full House HF/DF 2 R-123 transceiver 2 Spoon Rest radars 2 Bar Lock radars 1 Flap Wheel |
| * These figures | represent rough e | stimates based on a | available evidence/ | report. | a Active Duty b Urmobilized Reser | ves and Militias | |
| * Also included | below in Annual R indicates over 300 | ate for 1984. | raquan inventory. | | JIBIOTALLIA TIOOTA | | |